

CHAPTER 34
HOME FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS

481—34.1(137D) Inspection standards.

34.1(1) All ingredients must come from a licensed or approved source except for fresh fruits and vegetables, nonhazardous baked goods and honey or eggs. The use of food in hermetically sealed containers not prepared in a licensed food processing plant is prohibited.

34.1(2) All food products and ingredients shall be stored in original containers. If removed from the original container, food and ingredients must be stored in labeled and closed containers. Container must be of a material that will not cause the food to become adulterated.

34.1(3) All food shall be in sound condition, free from spoilage, filth or other contamination and shall be safe for human consumption. Food products shall not be stored on the floor.

34.1(4) All potentially hazardous food must be refrigerated at 41°F or less, or held at 140°F or higher to control bacteria growth. Potentially hazardous foods that have been cooked and then refrigerated shall be reheated rapidly to an internal temperature of 165°F or higher before being placed in hot food storage holding units. Food warmers and other hot food holding units shall not be used for the reheating of potentially hazardous foods.

34.1(5) Food storage facilities must be kept clean and located to protect food from unsanitary conditions or contamination from any source at all times.

34.1(6) The floors, walls, ceilings, utensils, machinery, equipment and supplies in the food preparation area and all vehicles used in the transportation of food must be kept thoroughly clean. All food contact surfaces shall be easy to clean, smooth, nonabsorbent, and free of cracks or open seams.

34.1(7) All food must be protected against insects and rodents at all times. Outside doors, windows, and other openings must be fitted with screens and self-closing doors, if not otherwise protected. No dogs, cats, or other pets are allowed in the room where food is prepared or stored.

34.1(8) All garbage and refuse must be kept in containers and removed from the premises regularly to eliminate insects and rodents, offensive odors, or health or fire hazards. Garbage and refuse containers must be durable, easy to clean, insect- and rodent-resistant and of material that neither leaks, nor absorbs liquid.

34.1(9) All food handlers must be free from contagious or communicable diseases, sores or infected wounds, and must keep their hair covered and restrained.

34.1(10) All food handlers must keep themselves and their clothing clean. Hands must be washed as frequently as necessary to maintain good sanitation.

34.1(11) Smoking is not permitted while handling or preparing food or in food preparation or storage areas.

34.1(12) All establishments must have an adequate supply of hot and cold potable water under pressure from an approved source. Facilities must ensure that equipment, utensils, and containers used in the preparation of food shall be washed, rinsed and sanitized. If the residence is not served by a public water system, the water must be tested annually for nitrites and coliform. Records of water tests must be maintained by license holders who are not served by a public system. These records must be available to the regulatory authority upon request.

34.1(13) All establishments must have proper toilet facilities, equipped with a hand-washing lavatory, complete with hot and cold potable water under pressure and hand soap. A supply of sanitary towels or a hand-drying device providing heated air shall be conveniently located near the hand-washing facility.

34.1(14) Rescinded IAB 9/22/99, effective 10/27/99.

481—34.2(137D) Enforcement. All critical violations (four- and five-point items) shall be corrected within 10 days. Within 15 days, the license holder shall make a written report to the regulatory authority, stating the action taken to correct the critical violation. All noncritical violations shall be corrected by the next routine inspection.

Violation of these rules or any provision of Iowa Code chapter 137D is a simple misdemeanor. The department may employ various remedies if violations are discovered.

A license may be revoked.

An injunction may be sought.

A case may be referred to a county attorney for criminal prosecution.

481—34.3(137D) Labeling requirement. All labels shall contain the following information in legible English:

1. Name and address of the person(s) preparing the food,
2. Common name of the food,
3. The names of all ingredients in the food, beginning with the one present in the largest proportion and continuing in descending order of predominance, and
4. The quantity of the contents in terms of weight, measure or numerical count.

481—34.4(137D) Annual gross sales. Annual gross sales shall not exceed \$20,000. The license holder shall maintain a record of sales of food licensed under Iowa Code section 137D.1(3). The record shall be available to the regulatory authority when requested.

481—34.5(137D) Criminal offense—conviction of license holder.

34.5(1) The department may revoke the license of a license holder who:

a. Conducts an activity constituting a criminal offense in the licensed home food establishment; and

b. Is convicted of a felony as a result.

34.5(2) The department may suspend or revoke the license of a license holder who:

a. Conducts an activity constituting a criminal offense in the licensed home food establishment; and

b. Is convicted of a serious misdemeanor or aggravated misdemeanor as a result.

34.5(3) A certified copy of the final order or judgment of conviction or plea of guilty shall be conclusive evidence of the conviction of the license holder.

34.5(4) The department's decision to revoke or suspend a license may be contested by the adversely affected party pursuant to the provisions of 481—30.13(10A).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 137D.8(3).

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